

Amendments to the Claims:

1. (Previously presented) A method of preparing an individual for a predetermined activity, wherein said predetermined activity requires the tagging of at least some colonic residue in the individual's digestive tract, said system comprising:

(a) administering less than 7 doses of a tagging agent in an aqueous suspension over a 20 to 36 hour administration period; wherein each dose of tagging agent is a volume of at least about 20 ml and comprises about 10% to 80% w/v tagging agent; and

(b) administering about 1 to 4 liters of total fluid over the 20 to 36 hour administration period with the patient free from administration of laxatives or cathartics for at least 24 hours.

2. (Original) The method of claim 1, wherein the administration of tagging agent is less than 5 doses; the volume of each dose ranging between 25 to 250 ml; and wherein the total fluid intake is 1 to 3 liters over the 20 to 36 hour administration period.

3. (Canceled)

4. (Original) The method of claim 1, wherein the administration of tagging agent is 3 doses; wherein the volume of each dose is about 20 ml and comprises about 40% w/v tagging agent.

5. (Previously presented) The method of claim 1, wherein the tagging agent is Barium Sulfate.

6. (Original) The method of claim 1, wherein the tagging agent is combined with Sorbitol or Mannitol.

7-12. (Canceled)

13. (Previously presented) A method for generating radiography images of one or more sections of an individual's gastrointestinal tract for screening, comprising

- (i) administering to the individual a low residue diet over at least a 48-hour period;
- (ii) administering to the individual one or more doses of a tagging agent over the at least 48-hour period, the tagging agent being an aqueous suspension at a volume of at least about 20 mL and comprising about 10% to 80% w/v tagging agent;
- (iii) with the patient free from administration of laxatives or cathartics for at least 24 hours, imaging the one or more sections of the individual's gastrointestinal tract after the administration period;
- (iv) producing a radiography image of the one or more sections of the individual's gastrointestinal tract; said image showing stool marked with the tagging agent;
- (v) screening the radiography image to identify the presence of any abnormality in the gastrointestinal tract without removing and/or subtracting the marked stool from the images.

14. (Original) The method of claim 13, wherein the images are produced in connection with a predetermined activity, including sigmoidoscopy, fiberoptic colonoscopy, CT colonography or MR colonography of the individual's colon.

15. (Previously presented) The method of claim 13, wherein the administration of tagging agent is less than 5 doses; the volume of each dose ranging between 25 to 250 ml; and wherein the total fluid intake is 1 to 3 liters over a 20 to 36 hour administration period.

16. (Canceled)

17. (Original) The method of claim 13, wherein the administration of tagging agent is 3 doses; wherein the volume of each dose is about 20 ml and comprises about 40% w/v tagging agent.

18. (Previously presented) The method of claim 13, wherein the tagging agent is Barium Sulfate.

19. (Previously presented) A method of preparing an individual for a predetermined activity; wherein said predetermined activity requires the tagging of at least some colonic residue in the individual's digestive tract; said method comprising the steps of

(i) administering one or more food items having sufficient tagging agent incorporated therein so that consumption of the one or more food items by the individual causes the stool to become tagged;

wherein the one or more food items are administered over at least a 24-hour period before the predetermined activity, and the total amount of tagging agent consumed by the individual is at least 1 g.

20. (Canceled)

21. (Original) The method of claim 19 wherein each of the one or more food items comprises at from about 0.01 g to about 150 g of tagging agent.

22. (Canceled)

23. (Original) The method of claim 19, wherein the individual's total fluid intake during the 24-hour administration period is 1 to 3 liters.

24. (Previously presented) The method of claim 19, wherein the predetermined activity is a fiberoptic colonoscopy, virtual colonoscopy, sigmoidoscopy or barium enema.

25. (Canceled)

26. (Previously presented) The method of claim 19, further comprising the step of providing a mild laxative regimen prior to the predetermined activity.

27. (Previously presented) The method of claim 19 wherein the last dose is administered to the individual more than 8 hours prior to predetermined activity.

28. (New) A method of preparing an individual for a predetermined activity; wherein said predetermined activity requires the tagging of at least some colonic residue in the individual's digestive tract; said method comprising administering a food item having a tagging agent incorporated in an amount sufficient such that, after said administering, the colonic residue becomes tagged.

29. (New) The method of claim 28, wherein the food item is a nutritional drink.

30. (New) The method of claim 28, wherein the food item is selected from the group consisting of protein supplements, grain foods, starch foods, fruits, vegetables, pudding, yogurt, soup, and nutritional drinks.